



Stellenbosch

UNIVERSITY
IYUNIVESITHI
UNIVERSITEIT

SRC

Students' Representative Council
Ibhunga elimele abafundi
Studenteraad



SRC TERM 2 REPORT

SRC INNOVATION OFFICER & INSTITUTIONAL PROJECT LIAISON



Students' Representative Council

Third Floor, Neelsie Student Centre

Private Bag XI, Matieland, 7602

Tel: +27 21 808 2757 | Email: sr@sun.ac.za

Table of Contents

Simonet Kapp – SRC Innovation Officer & Institutional Project Liaison – simonet@sun.ac.za	2
Constitutional Responsibilities.....	3
Portfolio Overview.....	4
Committees/Task Teams	4
Term 2 Overview	5
Plans for Next Term	9
Plans for the rest of the year:	9
Budget Use:	9

Simonet Kapp – SRC Innovation Officer & Institutional Project Liaison –
simonet@sun.ac.za



Foreword

Dear Maties Community,

I hope that your first term of the 2023 academic year was fruitful! I cannot believe that we are already 7 months in office. During our second term we were faced with a vast array of challenges, but also with great successes, development, and institutional growth.

Being part of the SRC has been the most eye-opening experience and opportunity during my time at Stellenbosch University, and one I will always hold close to my heart.

I am proud to say, as a team, we have never been stronger, we are united in what we want to achieve and how we will go about it. Our continuous intentional commitment towards you, is evident in everything we have achieved thus far.

I want to thank you, our student community, for your continuous support in tackling widespread issues affecting our students, together with us.

With five months left of our term, I can guarantee that we will make use of every opportunity given to us, to promote change, transformation and inclusivity.

We are committed to showing up, speaking up and standing up for your best interests!

Yours in service

Simonet Kapp

Constitutional Responsibilities

According to the student constitution the **SRC Innovation Officer** has the following constitutional responsibilities:

The Innovation portfolio thus far has no constitutionally prescribed responsibilities. However, I am obliged to comply with the duties allocated to me by the general SRC which are:

As the portfolio officer for Innovation:

- a) Supporting student entrepreneurship
- b) Facilitating innovation in SRC projects
- c) Liaising with SU LaunchLab/Innovus
- d) Providing student input to SU structures planning entrepreneurship projects

As an elected SRC member, my constitutional responsibilities can be divided between the duties imposed on me as an SRC member, duties directly assigned to me by the Executive committee and my portfolio specific duties. As an SRC Member, sections 27 and 32 impose the prevalent duties. Accordingly, I must always act in the best interest of students and actively promote their constitutionally provided rights. Section 32 further obligates me to submit a termly report of all my activities during the academic term. Finally, according to section 44 I must attend an SRC meeting every week during the academic term.

According to the student constitution, the **SRC Institutional Project Liaison** has the following constitutional responsibilities:

The Institutional Project Liaison portfolio thus far has no constitutionally prescribed responsibilities. However, I am obliged to comply with the duties allocated to me by the general SRC which are:

As the portfolio liaison for Institutional Projects plan and execute the following events:

- a) SRC Inauguration
- b) Rector's Awards
- c) SU Open Day
- d) LSAL

- e) Rectorate photoshoot
- f) Welcoming Fair
- g) UASLS
- h) Rector's Dinner
- i) Rectorate & Chancellor Photoshoot

Portfolio Overview

SRC Innovation Officer:

- 1) The Innovation portfolio of the SRC focusses on actively supporting student entrepreneurship on campus. The portfolio facilitates innovation in SRC projects. It also liaises with SU LaunchLab/Innovus. It ensures that student input to SU structures planning entrepreneurship projects is heard.
- 2) For 2023 my mission is working towards achieving sustainable projects and helping students produce at their premium best. In depth, the innovation portfolio broadens, promotes, and supports a culture of innovation & entrepreneurship as it drives creative thinking and advances efforts to extra economic and social value from knowledge. As a proponent for student innovation, it seeks to work with the Launch Lab to promote and facilitate entrepreneurial ideas from students which are aimed at socio-ecological challenges in their respective contexts.
- 3) The Innovation portfolio's 2023 mission is to focus on sustainable student founded businesses that empowers black, female, queer, disabled and disadvantaged communities with the aim, that that which they yield is ploughed back into the community.

SRC Institutional Project Liaison:

- 1) This portfolio is responsible for liaising with institutional bodies, mostly Student Governance, on projects relevant to the SRC.
- 2) These projects include Rector's Awards, SRC Inauguration, Rectorate, Chancellor & SRC photoshoot, and any other relevant projects where assistance and insight is required.

Committees/Task Teams

I serve on the following Committees and or Task Teams:

1) Rector's Award for Excellent Achievement Team:

The aim of this committee is to plan and execute the Rector's Awards. The following duties have to be carried out; introductory meetings, planning the guest speaker for the event, determining the theme, briefing with CCMD team: production, communication and marketing, compiling a proposed budget, booking the venue, designing the invitation and programme, briefing the parties involved (Rector, DVC: Learning and Teaching, DSAF Director; CSLEEC, Chief Director Maties Sport, Guest Speaker, Deans, SRC, Chairperson MC), designing and translations, opening of nominations and applications (including branding), closing of nominations/applications, submissions, vetting, interviews, communicating outcomes to students, finalising the guest list for distribution and venue preparations.

Term 2 Overview

1. SRC Sport Manager appointment:

Together with the Vice- Chairperson and the Safety and Security Manager we conducted interviews for the SRC Sport Manager as no one filled the position. Students were granted more than 10 days to nominate themselves and apply for the position. I was responsible for setting up the Microsoft Form on which they submitted their required details and their CV's. Together with the SRC Visibility Manager we compiled a poster, which was distributed via the SRC's social media platforms, and the vacancy was advertised via mass mail. Altogether, we received 37 applications, after which we shortlisted 10 candidates. The interviews took place on Tuesday 4 April from 15:30 – 18:00. Each candidate had to answer at least 5 randomised questions, thereafter they were scored on a criterion.

2. SRC Boardroom bookings:

I am now responsible for all boardroom bookings, access thereto and the management thereof. The Boardroom is currently under maintenance and card readers are being installed. This will assist in monitoring who enters the venue, and would count as an accountability measure. Maintenance is however still not completed at the time this report was submitted. Once installation has been completed, I will get access to the access system, where I will grant the person who booked the boardroom, access, for a limited time period, once that time period has elapsed, the person will no longer have access to the boardroom.

3. Morale boosters:

I took on the responsibility of planning an impromptu dinner during the term that served as a teambuilding and bonding session. I would consider the session a great success. It was held at De Warenmarkt.

4. Appointment of Electoral Commissioner(s) (Chief Electoral Commissioner and Chairperson)

Together with the Vice-Chairperson of the Prim Committee (as final year law students) we were tasked to carry out the appointment of the Electoral Commissioner. Together we formed a panel (with our Constitutional Law and Civil Procedure knowledge) to elect the Chief Electoral Officer and the Chairperson of the Electoral Commission. We received 34 applications and shortlisted 10 candidates. These 10 candidates were interviewed over 12 and 13 April. We made our recommendations to the SRC executive committee who is constitutionally empowered to make the appointment.

5. CCE SRC induction

The CCE (The Centre for Creative Education) reached out to Stellenbosch University to meet with the SRC. They currently have their first elected interim SRC that was established this year and they are trying to find their feet, in the sense that they needed direction with regards to the establishment of essential portfolios, what roles those portfolios should fulfil and what the duties and responsibilities of an SRC is. By meeting the SU SRC, they were granted the opportunity to learn how to navigate the space including the issues that the SRC is confronted with in higher education. They were exposed to various workshops during the day such as, The Leadership Development Programme: mediating the conflicting legacies of Colonial, Apartheid and Democratic South Africa, Policy Resonance, agency and confronting inequality. I was tasked with assisting in the planning of the induction, as part of the Institutional Project Liaison portfolio.

6. SRC Open Day (submission for the open day website)

I was tasked with submitting information relevant to the SRC to student governance for the SU Open Day website. This related to submitting answers to the following questions (and the translation thereof); What is the SRC? What is the function of the SRC? Is there a membership/subscription fee to be part of the SRC/AAC/Societies Council? When I am enrolled at the University as a first year, am I eligible to run for the SRC? Who can I contact to get more information about the SRC? Provision of the SRC contact details and office location.

7. Rectorate and Chancellor photoshoot execution

Duties and responsibilities tasked with in the execution of this event included consulting with the photographer, the company who provided the gowns, the collection of the 26 gowns at Die Stal and the returning thereof. I was in charge of heading and executing the photoshoot on the day.

8. Rector's Awards for excellent achievement

Duties and responsibilities tasked with in the execution and planning of this event includes, but are not limited to, arranging the guest speaker for the event (the selection of the speaker takes place in consultation with the SRC executive committee), arranging the transport, accommodation and gift of the speaker; establishing the theme for the event, opening the nominations/applications (including the branding thereof), administration of compiling and merging of nominations/applications of leadership, service to students, culture and social impact categories, finalising guest list for distribution, venue preparations: including but not limited to venue, decorations, arranging the podium, flowers/plants and branding. As well as preparing the programme, certificates and artwork, and the translations thereof. in terms of marketing, I am responsible to collaborate on the marketing and artwork (which includes, the countdown, applications, social media posts etc.). The event date is set for the 5th of October 2023.

9. SRC Inauguration

Duties and responsibilities tasked with in the execution of the event include, but is not limited to, planning the venue, the photographer and videographer, stage flowers, oath books, certificates (the printing thereof and the necessary translations), arranging the guest speaker (their transport, accommodation and their gifts), printing the certificates and the completion thereof, marketing and artwork, as well as finalising and printing the programmes. I am also involved in the design of the certificates and ensuring translations are effected, designing and translating of the invites, and the designing and translation of the programmes. This event is currently in the planning phase.

10. Entrepreneurship Development in Higher Education Events SU:

10.1 EDHE Student Entrepreneurship Intervarsity:

This is a nationwide pitch competition between all 26 public universities. Students from all over can enter their existing businesses or business ideas for a chance to compete in the national final, where they have the opportunity to win R100 000, as well as being crowned to be SA's Student Entrepreneurship Champion.

11. Innovus

During my meeting with Innovus, we discussed various collaborative events between SU SRC and Innovus. We discussed how we want to move forward, what the collaborative relationship between the two party's entail and how we can execute these plans. A lot of the time was spent on discussing Gradlink and the purpose thereof, which slots in with the Innovation portfolio's mission to improve and increase employability and entrepreneurial endeavours.

12. Launchlab

Together with Launchlab, we are collaborating on the following entrepreneurial opportunities, this includes marketing of the events, via all platforms.

12.1 Climathon

Climathon is a worldwide movement of people who actively combat climate change and is held in cities around the world. In Cape Town, the CIFAR Alliance, BFA Global, and Mastercard's Center for Inclusive Growth hosted their inaugural Climathon in collaboration with Stellenbosch University Launchlab, and the University of Cape Town's Algorand Financial Innovation Hub. Participants are granted the opportunity to meet inspiring entrepreneurs, work on challenges at the nexus of climate and finance and share their ideas to inspire others. Participants can build a new idea from scratch or collaborate with existing early-stage startups tackling climate change.

12.2 How to Think Differently series:

This event was aimed at entrepreneurially curious SU students. The purpose was to demystify entrepreneurship by having real entrepreneurs share their journeys and empower students with knowledge of the resources, support, safe spaces provided by SU for them to get a taste of entrepreneurship and hone their business skills.

12.3 Bootstrapping 101 workshop

This workshop aims to equip students with the ability to launch and build their business without making use of any external funding. They will learn from real entrepreneurs who have succeeded using creative and resourceful strategies and discover how to sell before they build and piggyback on existing platforms, build a community and prioritise profitability over growth. This workshop provides students with practical advice, real life examples and interactive activities that will inspire and empower them to bring their business idea to life.

12.4 How investors & financiers approach the entrepreneurial scene:

Prospective date: 4 May 2023

The aim of this session is to provide students with an overview on how they can approach the startup scene, what they should look out for. The aim is to equip students with the ability to find suitable investors to finance their idea, as government policy has been deemed rather insufficient. This will be hosted at SU LaunchLab's event area, where we will host between 120 – 150 guests.

13. Late Registration

During the late registration period we were faced with an influx of issues relating to lack of accommodation in residence spaces, lack of accommodation within the R45 000 NSFAS cap. Food insecurity, students still not having access to Sunlearn (due to outstanding debt), landlord-tenant issues in private accommodation (tenants being unfairly treated), historical debt queries. A lot of the issues also included NSFAS students who had not received their survey which will grant them access to their rental/food and book allowance. Allowances being paid out late, meant that a lot of NSFAS students were behind on paying rent, which resulted in mounting pressure from the Landlord.

Plans for Next Term

How to start a business & where to find the resources/ investors - motivational talk from entrepreneur & investor Daniel Strauss* in collaboration with the Golden Key Society.	Prospective date: April 2023 This event is focused on finding resources and investors to fund your business and to ensure the longevity of it. It will also speak to challenges business owners regularly face especially in the South African context.
SRC Inauguration planning	This event is currently in its planning phase.
Rector's Awards Planning	This event is currently in its planning phase.
Community Meets – organised through Peer Alumni Studentpreneurs	Experiential accounts from peers and alumni who have developed and shaped their entrepreneurial ideas and journeys within a higher education environment – this event has great potential in helping current studentpreneurs. This may include identifying themselves within the entrepreneurial ecosystem, developing relevant networks and insights, as well as learning from others wins and mistakes.

Plans for the rest of the year:

Business/career mindset together with a roundtable talk with businessman & motivational speaker Erik Kruger*.	Prospective date: July 2023 This roundtable event will be focused on maintaining a career mindset despite the challenges South African business owners face, even more so, South African student businesses.
Student Business digital compilation (plan on distributing in August)	A digital booklet that contains Stellenbosch University student founded business, their details, what they do, what they stand for and

	<p>how students can get in contact with these student businesses.</p> <p>This is quite a long process, it requires a lot of graphic designing, collaborating and collecting information. It will consist out of various categories.</p>
<p>Employability & bursaries (still has to take place)</p>	<p>Part of the Innovation portfolio is not only just entrepreneurial endeavours, but also how to improve employability.</p> <p>I want to collaborate with (Stellenbosch-csm@symplicity.com & careerservices@sun.ac.za) by hosting a career campaign – that includes a LinkedIn Workshop, a CV & cover letter writing session, as well as how to prepare for an interview session.</p> <p>I also want to do an information session on where to find bursaries – how to look for a job (websites where one can look and how it works).</p> <p>Information session on: How to improve your employability & short courses accessible to SU students.</p>
<p>SEW 2023 Event – Fail Fast, Protect Right</p>	<p>The EDHE Student Entrepreneurship Week is an annual event spotlighting student entrepreneurship in all 26 South African universities. The Stellenbosch University SEW theme is Fail Fast, Protect Right. This event seeks to share various approaches student entrepreneurs can use to reach market-fit with efficient financial and time costs. The event also seeks to share various intellectual and business concept protection approaches entrepreneurs can use to protect their unique ideas. I will collaborate with the EDHE representative with the execution of this event.</p>

Budget Use:

Up until the submission of this term report, I have not yet made use of any funds as provided for in my Cost Centre.